

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. – 5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 wherein the support collar (127) of the filter is connected to a cage (128) that surrounds the tubular body (110A) of the filter (10) within the container (9;109) which cage is sufficiently flexible to allow the filter to collapse along its whole length if the container containing it collapses.

7. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 6 wherein the cage (128) comprises a plurality of legs (128A) extending from the support collar (127) at the open end of the tubular body (110A) to a base member (128B) at the closed end of the tubular body (110A).

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 wherein the tubular body of the filter is provided with at least one annular support hoop spaced from the collar.

10. (Previously Presented) A liquid supply assembly for use with spraying apparatus such as a spray gun, the liquid supply assembly comprising a container (11;111) for containing a liquid, the container having a lid, a collapsible side wall and a base on which the side wall can stand unsupported in an upright position and said container capable of being mounted on a hand held spray gun (1) for supply of the liquid to an inlet of the spray gun (1) through an opening in the lid, and said lid also having a filler opening (12D), separate from the opening for connection to the spray gun, for adding liquid to the container, and a filter (10;110) for filtering liquid added to the container through the filler opening (12D), the filter (10;110) comprising an elongate tubular body (10A;110A) closed at one end and open at the other end, the open end being provided with a support collar (27;127) that is integral with the tubular body of the filter and fits in the filler

opening (12D) so that the filter body (10A;110A) extends away from the opening (12D) within the container when liquid is added to the container through the filler opening (12D) to filter liquid added to the container characterized in that: the tubular body (10A;110A) of the filter (10;110) has a surface area and volume within the container to permit filling of the container with liquid that is filtered on being added to the container to produce a supply of filtered liquid within the container for supply to the spray gun (1) when the container is connected to the spray gun (1); and the filter is sufficiently rigid to maintain an elongate, tubular shape and sufficiently flexible to allow it to collapse as the container side wall collapses.

11. (Previously Presented) The combination of a spray gun and a liquid supply assembly, the liquid supply assembly comprising a container for containing a liquid, the container being connected to the spray gun for supply of the liquid to an inlet of the spray gun and having a filler opening for adding liquid to the container, and a filter for filtering liquid added to the container through the filler opening, the filter comprising an elongate tubular body closed at one end and open at the other end, the open end being provided with a collar that is integral with the tubular body of the filter and fits in the filler opening so that the filter body extends away from the opening within the container when liquid is added to the container through the filler opening to filter liquid added to the container wherein, the container comprises an open-topped container (11;111) and a lid (12;112) arranged to close the open end of the container (11;111) and forming the end wall in which the filler opening (12C) is formed, said lid having both the filler opening and a separate opening connected to the spray gun, the container (11;111) being collapsible as liquid is withdrawn from the container, and the filter being sufficiently rigid to maintain an elongate, tubular shape and sufficiently flexible to allow the filter to collapse as the container collapses.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 11 ~~42~~ wherein the lid is provided with an extension sleeve or cage surrounding the container to provide support for the container.

14. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 in which the elongate tubular body of the filter is tapered toward the closed end.
15. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 in which the tubular body of the filter is oriented at an angle that is not parallel to the side wall of the container.
16. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 in which the container is characterized by a shape having a longitudinal axis and the filler opening is offset from the container longitudinal axis.
17. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 in which the filler opening is not an open end of the container.
18. (Previously Presented) The liquid supply assembly of claim 10 in which the container comprises a container and a circular lid, and the filler opening has a diameter of one-half the diameter of the lid or less.